

INSIGHTS

Volume 4: Issue 9 October 2014

SC Department of Employment and Workforce

Business Intelligence Department

Economic Indicators

October 2014 - Seasonally Adjusted (SA)

	United States	SC
Labor Force	156,278,000	2,192,212
Employed	147,283,000	2,045,499
Unemployed	8,995,000	146,713
Unemployed Rate	5.8%	6.7%

Average Hours & Earnings

	United States (SA)	SC (Unadj.)
Avg. Weekly Earnings	\$1,018.37	\$761.57
Avg. Weekly Hours	40.8	41.3
Avg. Hourly Wage	\$ 24.96	\$ 18.44

Top Job Growth by MSA (SA)

	Over Month % Change	Over Year % Change
Sumter MSA	0.78%	1.30%
Charleston MSA	0.69%	2.04%
Greenville MSA	0.68%	2.75%
Spartanburg MSA	0.38%	1.75%

Employment to Population Ratio (SA)

	2014	2013
U.S. Population Ratio	59.2%	58.2%
S.C. Population Ratio	54.4%	54.3%

Labor Force Participation Rate (SA)

	Oct	Sep	% Change
U.S. Participation Rate	62.8%	62.8%	0.0%
S.C. Participation Rate	58.3%	58.1%	0.2%

United States Consumer Price Index

12-Month CPI	1.7%
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HIGHLIGHTS

- Labor force level sets new record
- Unemployment rate ticked up
- 41 counties record lower unemployment rates
- Seasonally adjusted, non-farm payrolls increased by 4,900

View the [S.C. Employment Situation Report](#)

Employment
7,196



Unemployment
2,291



Unemployment
Rate
0.1%



Unemployment Rate Rises for Fourth Consecutive Month

Labor Force Estimate Sets New Record

October's seasonally adjusted statewide unemployment rate rose for the fourth consecutive month to 6.7 percent from September's 6.6 percent level. Impacting the rate increase was a steadily rising labor force (those employed and those unemployed actively seeking work), setting a new record of approximately 2,192,200 people.

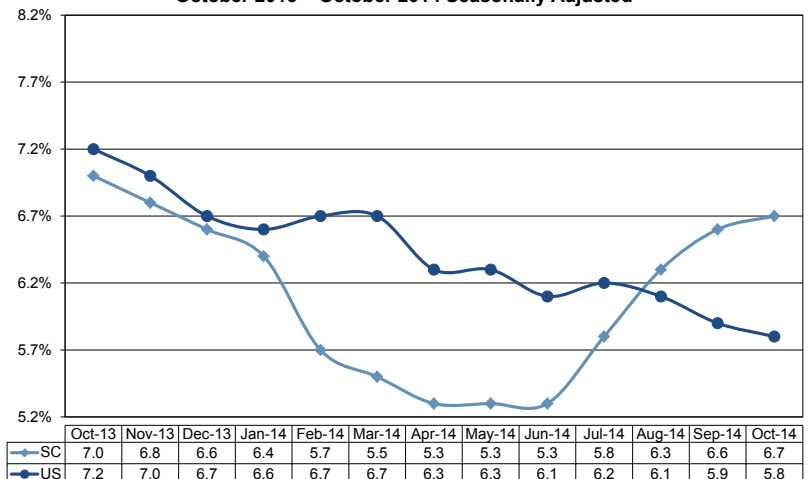
During October, the estimated number of employed increased by nearly 7,200 people to approximately 2,045,500. The number of unemployed people was reported at about 146,700, marking an increase of nearly 2,300. Monthly labor force estimates increased by almost 9,500 people.

From October 2013 to October 2014, approximately 25,100 people found work. The number of unemployed people decreased by 6,320, as the unemployment rate declined 0.3 percentage points. Approximately 18,790 people entered the labor force when compared to October 2013.

Nationally, over the month, the October unemployment rate decreased to 5.8 percent from 5.9 percent in September.

Looking forward, we remain optimistic about employment opportunities for job seekers in South Carolina.

Unemployment Rates in South Carolina and The United States
October 2013 – October 2014 Seasonally Adjusted



Insights is prepared in conjunction with the U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics. The current month's estimates are preliminary, while all previous data are subject to revision. All estimates are projected from a first quarter 2013 benchmark. To subscribe to *Insights*, please email bidcustomerservice@dew.sc.gov or to provide feedback please click on the [BID Customer Feedback Form](#).

State Unemployment Rates

Georgia	7.7
District Of Columbia	7.6
Mississippi	7.6
Rhode Island	7.4
California	7.3
Michigan	7.1
Nevada	7.1
Tennessee	7.1
Oregon	7.0
Alaska	6.8
Arizona	6.8
South Carolina	6.7
Illinois	6.6
New Jersey	6.6
New Mexico	6.5
West Virginia	6.5
Connecticut	6.4
Delaware	6.4
Alabama	6.3
North Carolina	6.3
Kentucky	6.2
Louisiana	6.2
Arkansas	6.0
Florida	6.0
Maryland	6.0
Massachusetts	6.0
New York	6.0
Washington	6.0
Missouri	5.9
Maine	5.8
United States	5.8
Indiana	5.7
Pennsylvania	5.4
Wisconsin	5.4
Ohio	5.3
Virginia	5.3
Texas	5.1
Wyoming	4.7
Iowa	4.5
Montana	4.5
Oklahoma	4.5
Kansas	4.4
Vermont	4.4
Colorado	4.3
New Hampshire	4.2
Hawaii	4.1
Idaho	4.1
Minnesota	3.9
Utah	3.6
Nebraska	3.4
South Dakota	3.3
North Dakota	2.8

South Carolina Ranked 12 of 51 in October

According to the Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS), 34 states and the District of Columbia experienced decreases in their unemployment rates, five states had increases and 11 states remained unchanged. In October, South Carolina's 6.7 percent rate ranked 12th highest out of 51. In the Southeast region, South Carolina's rate remained lower than Georgia, Mississippi and Tennessee.

The most significant over-the-month percentage increase in employment occurred in the Wyoming (1.4 percent), followed by Idaho at 0.8 percent and Utah at 0.7 percent. The largest decrease in employment was in Montana and Nevada at -0.6 each, followed by Rhode Island at -0.5 percent.

Over the year, nonfarm employment increased in 49 states and the District of Columbia. The largest over-the-year increase occurred in North Dakota at 5.0 percent, followed by Utah at 3.8 percent and Texas at 3.7 percent. Alaska experienced an over-the-year decline of -0.2 percent.

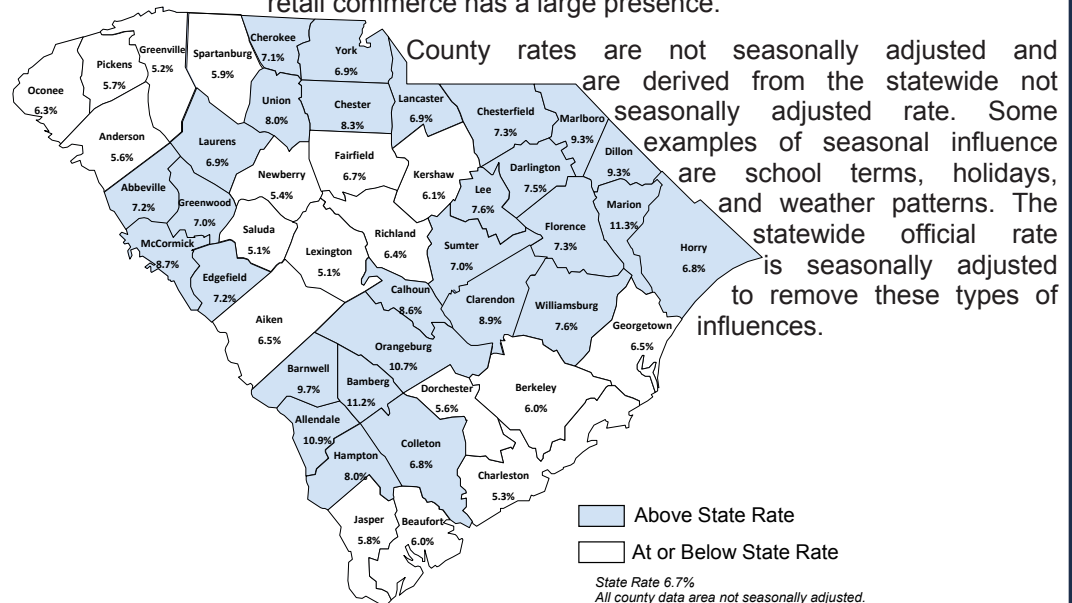
October Unemployment Rate by County

Over the month, 41 counties across the state reported decreases in their unemployment rates. Laurens, Marion and Horry counties experienced modest rate increases. The largest declines, ranging from -1.1 to -1.8 percentage points, occurred in Orangeburg, Calhoun and Bamberg counties.

Since October 2013, 45 of 46 county unemployment rates have declined. Calhoun County marked an increase of 0.5 percentage points.

Looking at employment growth over the year, all 46 counties have recorded increases. Greenville County leads in employment gains (+4,400) with Horry (+3,597) and Charleston (+2,990) counties having robust increases as well. Labor force levels climbed in all counties over the year with the exception of Saluda, Fairfield and Marlboro counties.

As the holiday period approaches, seasonal and part time employment will increase as retailers, distribution centers and couriers hire additional staff to service increased customer demand. This will impact county employment levels, especially in areas where retail commerce has a large presence.



Employment Changes by County August 2014 through October 2014

County	Employment			Net Change From	
	Oct 2014	Sep 2014	Aug 2014	Sep '14 - Oct '14	Aug '14 - Sep '14
Abbeville	10,206	10,067	10,008	139	59
Aiken	72,757	72,034	72,711	723	-677
Allendale	2,905	2,865	2,834	40	31
Anderson	83,458	82,533	82,494	925	39
Bamberg	5,149	5,087	5,037	62	50
Barnwell	7,507	7,410	7,381	97	29
Beaufort	62,507	61,595	61,235	912	360
Berkeley	82,685	82,063	82,335	622	-272
Calhoun	6,010	5,980	5,959	30	21
Charleston	170,406	169,125	169,686	1,281	-561
Cherokee	23,617	23,300	23,176	317	124
Chester	13,690	13,504	13,487	186	17
Chesterfield	17,591	17,351	17,262	240	89
Clarendon	11,230	11,082	11,001	148	81
Colleton	15,960	15,747	15,640	213	107
Darlington	27,978	27,868	27,853	110	15
Dillon	11,558	11,433	11,320	125	113
Dorchester	66,111	65,614	65,831	497	-217
Edgefield	10,272	10,169	10,265	103	-96
Fairfield	9,386	9,341	9,307	45	34
Florence	58,663	58,431	58,401	232	30
Georgetown	27,851	27,652	27,744	199	-92
Greenville	221,125	219,223	218,817	1,902	406
Greenwood	28,797	28,393	28,210	404	183
Hampton	7,145	7,049	6,982	96	67
Horry	121,572	124,442	130,131	-2,870	-5,689
Jasper	10,131	9,983	9,924	148	59
Kershaw	27,696	27,561	27,462	135	99
Lancaster	31,483	31,050	30,983	433	67
Laurens	28,357	28,114	28,062	243	52
Lee	7,529	7,467	7,406	62	61
Lexington	129,182	128,553	128,092	629	461
McCormick	3,041	3,006	2,988	35	18
Marion	10,199	10,134	10,142	65	-8
Marlboro	10,272	10,156	10,080	116	76
Newberry	17,374	17,194	17,039	180	155
Oconee	29,919	29,532	29,359	387	173
Orangeburg	36,136	35,726	35,407	410	319
Pickens	54,775	54,304	54,203	471	101
Richland	172,533	171,693	171,076	840	617
Saluda	8,439	8,398	8,367	41	31
Spartanburg	131,627	130,250	129,805	1,377	445
Sumter	41,262	40,821	40,839	441	-18
Union	10,786	10,648	10,579	138	69
Williamsburg	14,492	14,348	14,293	144	55
York	105,710	104,244	105,105	1,466	-861

South Carolina Nonfarm Employment Trends for October - Seasonally Adjusted

In October, seasonally adjusted, non-farm payrolls increased by 4,900, to reach 1,949,600. Healthy increases occurred in Education and Health Services (+2,600) and Manufacturing (+2,100). Additional job gains were reported in Professional and Business Services (+600); Government (+500); and Leisure and Hospitality (+200).

Since October 2013, seasonally adjusted non-farm jobs were up

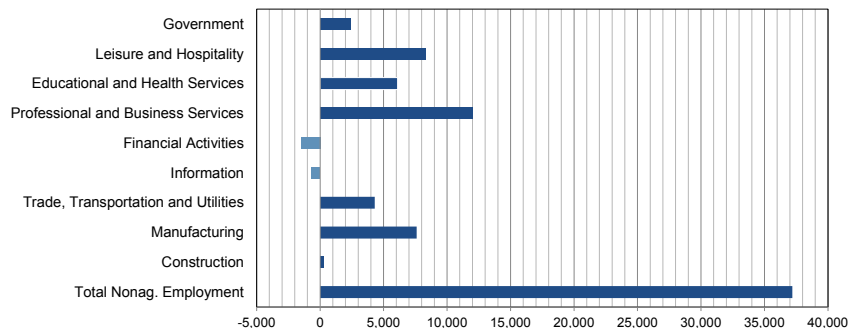
37,200. Industries with noticeable gains were Professional and Business Services (+12,000); Leisure and Hospitality (+8,300); Manufacturing (+7,600); Education and Health Services (+6,100); Trade, Transportation, and Utilities (+4,300); and Government (+2,400). There was a smaller increase in Construction (+300). Other Services (-1,600); Financial Activities (-1,500); and Information (-700) declined.

Over-the-year seasonally-adjusted growth in non-farm employment was at 37,200. The industries reporting the largest gains since October 2013 were Professional and Business Services (+12,000); Leisure and Hospitality (+8,300); Manufacturing (+7,600); and Education and Health Services (+6,100). Additional gains were seen in Trade, Transportation, and Utilities (+4,300); Government (+2,400); and Construction (+300). Industries reporting a decline over the year were Other Services (-1,600); Financial Activities (-1,500); and Information (-700).

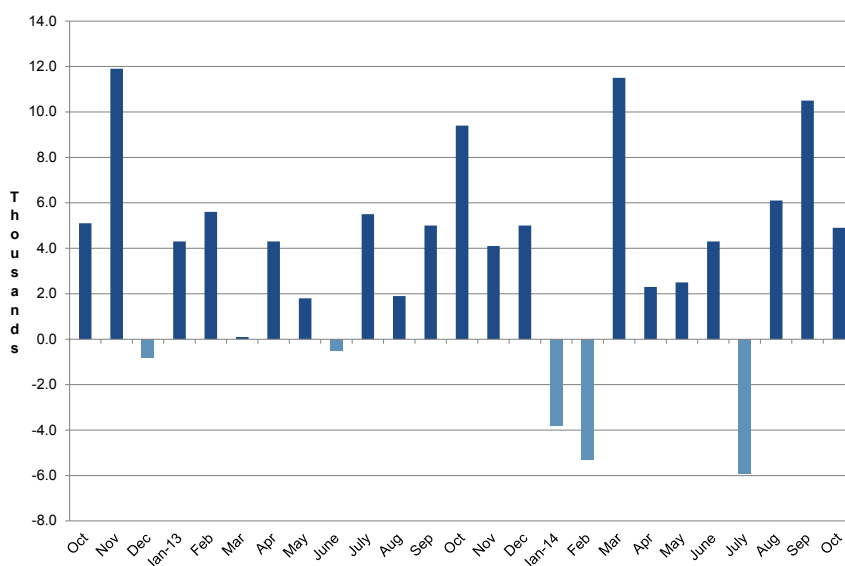
Nearly all of the Metropolitan Statistical Areas saw a seasonally adjusted over-the-month increase in employment. Greenville and Charleston tied with the largest increase (+2,200). Smaller increases were seen in Spartanburg (+500); Sumter (+300); and Florence (+200). The areas which saw declines in employment were in Columbia (-1,500) and Myrtle Beach (-600).

Every Metropolitan Statistical Area saw seasonally adjusted payroll employment growth over-the-year. The most prominent growth was in Greenville (+8,900); Charleston (+6,500); Myrtle Beach (+4,700); and Columbia (+3,900). Also reporting healthy increases were Florence and Spartanburg (both with +2,300) and Anderson (+1,100). Modest growth was reported Sumter (+500).

**South Carolina Job Changes by Industry
October 2013 - October 2014 (SA)**



**SC Total Nonfarm Jobs
2012 -2014**



To see the monthly not-seasonally adjusted data series, go to

www.SCWorkforceInfo.com

(Employment and Wage Data section)

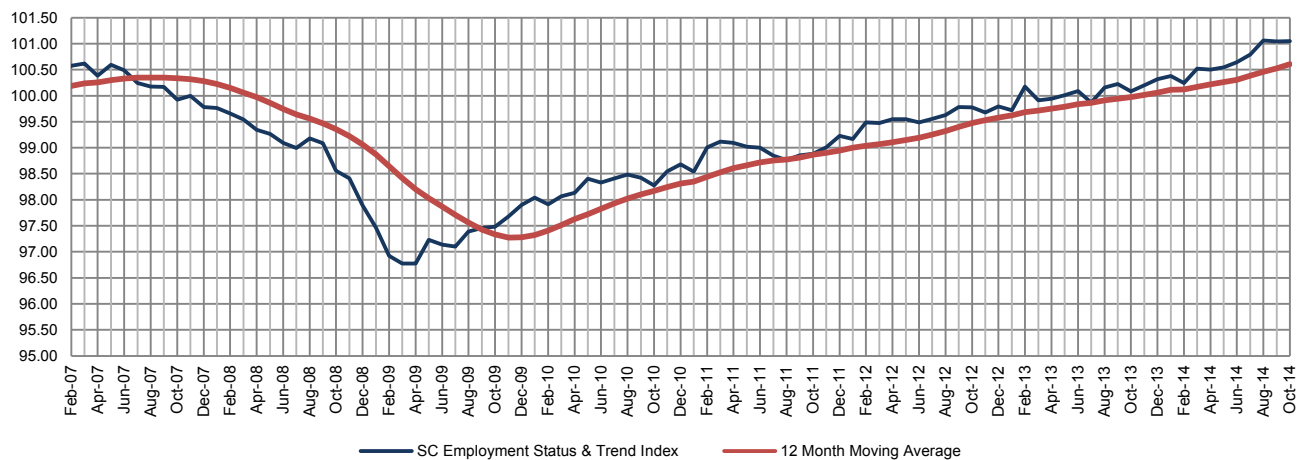
South Carolina Employment Status and Trend Index Moves Up

After a tiny drop in the previous month, South Carolina Employment Status and Trend Index (SCESTI) edged 0.01 point up at the end of October. A healthy 6.18 percent jump of the Conference Board's US Consumer Confidence Index, coupled with an almost one percent gain of the Conference Board's US Employment Trend Index were the main contributing factors for SCESTI's advance this month. Hindering SCESTI from better gains for the month was a 3.59 percent loss of the Conference Board's SC Help Wanted Online Ads and a 2.36 percent rise of the number of Initial Claims for Unemployment Insurance. The Manufacturing Average Weekly Working Hours was unchanged for October.

Compared with 12 months ago, SCESTI and four of the five index components managed advancements while only one component (Manufacturing Average Weekly Working Hours) lost ground, dropping 1.2 percent. SCESTI was 0.96 percent higher than it was in October 2013. The greatest advances are seen in the Unemployment Insurance Initial Claims and the Conference Board's US Consumer Confidence Index, improving 33.83 and 30.52 percent, respectively. The Conference Board's SC Help Wanted Online Ads and its US Employment Trends Index were also higher than October 2013, rising 13.07 and 8.29 percent, respectively.

The ability of SCESTI to turn upward swiftly after a brief downturn last month and the fact that the index had been moving above the 12-month moving average for 38 consecutive months (since August 2011) indicate steady improvements for the employment situation in South Carolina for the next three to six months.

South Carolina Employment Status and Trend Index



INTERPRETERS

Hola, es un gran día en Carolina del Sur! ¿En qué puedo ayudarle hoy?¹ Confused? You are not alone. With the increase in migrants to the United States over the past years, there is an increased need for interpreters, which we know as translators, in our society.

Translation began about 3200 BC in Mesopotamia in the language of pictographic- the use of pictures to represent words. By 2000 BC, cuneiform (wedged shapes representing objects and ideas) was used by the Sumerians to communicate with others. Because more than one form of language existed, this began the need for translation so that people could interact. An interpreter is a person who interprets oral or sign language or translates written text from one language into another. A sample of reported job titles include Court Interpreter, Deaf Interpreter, Educational Interpreter, Interpreter, Medical Interpreter, Paraprofessional Interpreter, Sign Language Interpreter, Spanish Interpreter, Technical Translator, and Translator. (O-Net Online, <http://www.onetonline.org/link/summary/27-3091.00>)

EDUCATION

According to BLS, there is no formal educational requirement to become an interpreter. The most important requirement is that one is fluent in English and a second language. A bachelor's degree is often required and some formal on the job training attained. Interpreters do not have to grow up in an environment that two languages are spoken; however, it does assist in making an easier career choice. Certifications are offered by the [American Translators Association](#), which provides [certification](#) in 26 language combinations involving English.

EMPLOYMENT

Interpreters work in schools, hospitals, courtrooms, and conference centers. Many translators work from home. Interpreters and translators held about 63,600 jobs in 2012, nationally. About one in five interpreters were self-employed. Self-employed interpreters and translators frequently have variable work schedules. Most interpreters and translators work full time during regular business hours. According to the United States Bureau of Labor Statistics, employment of interpreters and translators is projected to grow 46 percent from 2012 to 2022, much faster than the average for all occupations. Employment growth will be driven by increasing globalization and by large increases in the number of non-English-speaking people in the United States.

¹ Hola, es un gran día en Carolina del Sur! ¿En qué puedo ayudarle hoy? Means Hello, It's a great day in South Carolina! How may I assist you today?

WAGES

The mean annual wage for interpreters and translators in South Carolina was \$37,450, as shown in May 2013 Occupational Employment and Wage Estimates. Nationally, it was \$47,920. The following table shows the top 10 paying industries in South Carolina.

May 2013 Occupational Employment and Wage Estimates

Interpreters and Translators	
Industry (NAICS Code)	Annual mean wage(2)
Engineering Services (541330)	\$ 108,740
Architectural Engineering and Related Services (541300)	\$ 97,940
Federal Executive Branch (OES Designation) (999100)	\$ 73,510
Federal government including USPS (999101)	\$ 73,440
Office Administrative Services (561100)	\$ 63,900
Colleges universities and professional schools - Privately owned (611305)	\$ 60,530
Junior colleges - Local government owned (611203)	\$ 60,290
Junior Colleges (including private state and local government schools) (611200)	\$ 59,210
Colleges Universities and Professional Schools (611300)	\$ 58,320
Software Publishers (511200)	\$ 58,120

Source: The Bureau of Labor Statistics

CONCLUSION

Demand will likely remain strong for translators of frequently translated languages, such as French, German, Portuguese, Russian, and Spanish. In addition, growing international trade and broadening global ties should require more interpreters and translators, which also should pave the way for increased employment in this field for years to come. The need for military interpreters and translators should result in more jobs as well. Internships are a great way to gain valuable work experience.